

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL – 201 DELAWARE STREET – NEW CASTLE
TUESDAY – MAY 15, 2001 – 7:00 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilman Balascio
Councilman DiAngelo
Councilwoman Dr. G. Miller
Councilman Reese
President Castagno

Also Present: Mayor John Klingmeyer, Robert Martin, City Administrator, Chief Kevin McDerby, Lt. Patrick Cannon, Jean Williamson, Council Secretary, and attached list of audience.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Martin read the committee reports and announced that they are available at the City Administration Building.

Police Department Report	April 2001
Street Department Report	April 2001
Building Official's Report	April 2001

Mr. DiAngelo moved the reports be accepted as submitted.
Mr. Reese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Janet Carlin, Treasurer, read the treasurer's report for the month ending March 2001. Mr. Reese moved that the report be accepted as read. Dr. Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES BY DATE

Regular Council Meeting – April 10, 2001 – Minutes approved as submitted.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Martin read the following letters:

- A. A letter from DNREC advising of a workshop on June 6, 2001 at Martin Luther King Auditorium at Delaware State University, 1200 N. duPont Parkway, Dover, DE. Regarding Delaware River Main Channel Deeping Project.
- B. St. Gab's Club requesting special parking permit for a bus. Request was denied last year.
- C. The Trustees of the Common concerning new 45 megawatt generator policy, May 15, 2001, Tuesday, 6:00 P.M.

- D. Rep. Mike Mulrooney supporting Council request for \$53,750.00 from the General Assembly for New Castle's 350th Birthday Party.
- E. The Visitor's Bureau, Saturday, August 26, 2001, 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., seeking assistance with trash removal and clean-up.
- F. Thanked the Sailing Club for clean-up on the beach. They did a good job.

BUSINESS FROM MAYOR

Mayor John Klingmeyer wishes that no action be taken with Deemer property until full study can be completed.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Council President and City Administrator, Chris Castagno and Robert Martin, met with representatives of Delaware River and Bridge authorities to get a commitment that they will not take passengers on at New Castle. Chris met with Goodwill Fire Company. They want to be better partners with the City. We need to include Fire Company in City correspondence. Tree commission will meet on June 4, 2001 at 5:30 P.M.

BUSINESS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Martin stated that the Kalmar Nyckle would be docked through Day in Old New Castle and probably a couple of days longer. Vessel is open to public.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Paul Flannigan concerned how taxpayers money will be spent. Clean-up issues are in the hands of owner. This is not a city problem.

Gladys Clark asked about Deemer property, wondering what is the problem with clean-up. Other areas have been cleaned-up.

John Houben replied Deemer Steel clean-up is State, County, and owners – the City assumes no responsibility until it is cleaned-up.

Janet Koczak needs more information. She is not clear what materials are in ground. Recommends option be on hold.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 398 – 3rd final reading of Parade and Assembly.
Dr. Miller voted to table amendment to clarify working. Mr. Balascio will continue to follow-up. Any concerns should be discussed with Mr. Balascio. Dr. Miller/Mr. Reese.

2. Request to State Legislators for street aid money from State \$80,000.00 - \$40,000.00 from State Senator Dori Connor and \$40,000.00 from Rep. Mike Mulrooney.
3. Mr. Sharp wants to know why no handicap ramps have been put in with new roadway surfaces. Response from Mr. Martin – all future projects will have handicap cutouts. General information, handicap ramp cost, about \$3,000.00 each.

NEW BUSINESS

1. BANK RESOLUTION

Dr. Miller proposed the payment of Diamond Material for \$83,603.10. All payments in excess of \$10,000.00 must be submitted in a resolution. Resolution accepted. Comment that this company has done a terrible job. Complaints about Center Street. The space in street is design 2" difference between old/new. Will go out and look at it. Mr. Reese/Dr. Miller.

2. ANNEXATION PROPOSAL

- A. City Council President, Mr. Castagno, advised the council that a letter requesting annexation of the "Farmers Market" area properties had been received from the Trustees of New Castle Common, (April 27, 2001 letter is attached).

President Castagno appointed an annexation committee in compliance with Section 29 of the City Charter. The committee members are:

Councilperson – Joseph DiAngelo
Councilperson – Dr. Genevieve Miller
Councilperson – Mr. Balascio
Chief of Police – Kevin McDerby
City Administrator – Robert Martin
Municipal Services Corp – Francis Patterson
Trustee of New Castle Committee – William Lane
Citizen – Chris Linden

The annex committee has ninety (90) days in which to submit a report to the Municipal Service Committee of its findings and conclusions plus advantages and disadvantages to the City and the territory to be annexed.

Comments from Mr. Indellini, Trustees of the Common, reason for request annexations:

- a. wants control of what goes on property
- b. avoid penalty that will imposed
- c. increase revenue to city
- d. cost to the city – to identify all service costs.

- B. City Council President, Mr. Castagno, read a letter from Parkway Gravel, Inc. requesting the City To annex 146+ acres of property which is contiguous to the corporate boundaries of New Castle (South of Dobbinsville). Mr Castagno advised Council that a committee would be appointed in compliance with Chapter 20 of the City Charter in the near future.

3. SEPARATION DAY REPORT

Ms. DiEmidio has coordinated preparation of the forthcoming Separation Day event. All is ready, activities, traffic control, and necessary services.

4. NOISE ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT

Police Lt. Patrick Cannon addresses the complaints on motorcycles. Asked about difficulty of enforcement. Can make drivers go to DMV for re-inspection. Police concern – please contact Don Reese. Questioned of decibel reader would help with our problem. State law very specific room for increased enforcement.

5. DRAFT BUDGET 2001 – 2002

Dr. Miller presented “first of many drafts” from the fiscal year 2001 – 2002 City Budget.

6. NEW POLICE FACILITY CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Reese has accepted the chair for a permanent police facility.

7. RESOLUTION OF UNION GRIEVANCE

Mr. DiAngelo read the contract and said that grievance is without merit. However, the cost of continuing litigation would be prohibited. Therefore, the Council voted 4 to 1 to pay the contested monies.

8. ACQUISITION OF DEEMER PROPERTY

Council President, Mr. Castagno, advised the Council of his meeting with Mike Parkowski. The economics of securing an option, \$30,000.00 with another \$30,000.00/\$35,000.00 after 12 months. Council must make a decision about option. Concerns are cost to clean-up property, get enough information before spending taxpayers money, and pick a direction. Call for a vote on the option – motion to withdrawn from option. Vote 4 to 1 to halt negotiations about Deemer. Need record of votes.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Corky Viola – congratulated officers on their election to Council. He is a member of the Outreach Committee of the Historical Society. Liked to discuss two issues: call a moratorium on new buildings; and second, flow of traffic in and out of the City. We must manage traffic. It effects our quality of life. Closing, we are experiencing the destruction of Historic Area of Old New Castle.

Ned Hutchinson – Dredging of the Delaware River has been approved by Congress of the United States. However, the spoils that dredging will deposit will affect us all. Municipal Services should investigate. Mr. Martin responds that a letter was sent approximately one year ago. The legislature is aware of our concerns. There will be a meeting concerning dredging on June 6, 2001, Martin Luther King Building, Delaware State University, Dover, DE.

John DiMondi comments on the two annexations. One has a committee and the other is still waiting to get into motion. Mr. Martin responds that both are being treated fairly.

Earl Carpenter remarks on the inconsideration of the people attending Council meeting. They are speaking out of order and wasting the time of everyone attending. Must stay with agenda items.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Toner, City Clerk
May 15, 2001